

Results

of

Dr. E. MJÖBERG'S

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25.

Buprestidæ.

By

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With 2 figures in the text.

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A collection of *Buprestidæ* has been sent to me from the Museum in Stockholm — for determination. This collection, though small, is interesting as containing some of the rarer and less known form, e. g. *Stigmodera Mac Farlani* WATERH. and *Neospades (Cisseis) cuprifera* GESTRO besides containing two new species described below.

Two species were included of the *Sternoxi* group — though not *Buprestidæ* — as follows.

Fam. **Trixagidæ.**

Aulanothroscus elongatus BONV. 6 Exs.

(Evelyne, Atherton, Tambourine Mountain, Christmas Creek, Queensland).

Fam. Eucnemidæ.

Drapetes vicinus FLEURT. 4 Exs.

(Bellenden Ker, Queensland).

The latter species has been labelled in many Australian collections as *Trachys Freucki* v. D. POLL.

Fam. Buprestidæ.

Chalcotænia australasiæ SAUND. 2 Exs. (Kimberley & Broome, N. W. Austr.).

C. quadri-impressa WATERH. 2 Exs. (Kimberley, N. W. Austr.).

Cyphogastra pistora C. & G. 3 Exs. (Kimberley, N. W. Austr.).

C. venerea THOMS. 1 Ex. (Yarrabah, Queensland).

Nascioides multesima OLL. 1 Ex. (Tambourine Mt., Queensland).

Buprestis moestus CART. 2 Exs. (Glen Lamington, Queensland; Noonkanbah, N. W. Austr.).

Torresita chrysochloris C. & G. 1 Ex. (Glen Lamington, Queensland).

Melobasis gratiosissima THOMS. 2 Exs. (Geraldton, W. Austr.).

M. Lathamii C. & G. 17 Exs. (Fremantle, Perth, Geraldton, W. Austr.).

M. propinqua C. & C. 6 Exs. (Mundaring, W. Austr.).

M. Saundersi MAST. 2 Exs. (Geraldton, W. Austr.),

Stigmodera crenata DON. 1 Ex. (Tambourine Mt., Queensland).

S. grandis DON. 1 Ex. (Cavins, Queensland).

S. grata SAUND. 2 Exs. (Adelaide, S. Austr.).

S. longicollis SAUND. 3 Exs. (Cossack, N. W. Austr.).

S. MacFarlani WATERH. 1 Ex. (Kimberley, N. W. Austr.).

S. variabilis DON., var. *regia* BLACKB. 2 Exs. (Ather-ton, Queensland).

S. xanthopilosa HOPE. 3 Exs. (Adelaide, S. Austr.).

S. viridicauda sp. nov.

♂. elongate, sub-depressed; head, thorax, underside and legs metallic green, antennæ blue: margins of prothorax (above and below) rather widely sanguineous; elytra yellow merging into blood-red on apical third, the suture in this region and a square apical patch blue-green.

Head closely punctured, channelled between eyes, with fine white pubescence. Prothorax produced in middle at apex, anterior angles acute, sides rather widely protruding in middle, thence sinuately narrowed in front, and obliquely, less narrowed behind, base bisinuate; disc finely and closely punctate, medial line smooth. Elytra striate-punctate, intervals feebly raised, with sparse shallow punctures; each apex bidentate, the sutural tooth the longer. Underside rather closely punctured, the sternal punctures — especially at sides — more coarse than there on the abdomen; undersurface clad with sparse fine hairs.

Dim.: 30 × 12 mm.

Hab.: Yarrabah, Queensland (Mus. Stockholm). ♀ wanting.

A species near *S. affinis* SAUND., *S. sanguinea* SAUND. and *S. viridicincta* WATERH. The last two, however, have a more or less yellow abdomen, besides other colour difference, and the last is a decidedly more convex insect. From



Fig. 1. Apex of left elytron of *Stig. affinis*.



Fig. 2. Apex of left elytron of *Stig. viridicauda*.

affinis its chief distinctions are (1) more elongate form, (2) apex more deeply dentate, (3) absence of yellow spots on apical segment, (4) colour scheme of elytra [n. b. »the apical segments spotted with red» in SAUNDERS'S description of *affinis* only applies to the ♂].

S. viridicauda should be placed in my tabulation as follows

43. Apex of elytre feebly bidentate *affinis* SAUND.

53 a. » » » strongly » *viridicauda* sp. nov.

Merinna atrata HOPE. 9 Exs. (Derby, Broome, Alice River, Kimberley, N. W. Austr.).

Cisseis fulgidicollis MACL. 4 Exs. (Colosseum, Queensland; Kimberley, N. W. Austr.).

C. notulata GERM. 1 Ex. (Lamington Flat, Queensland).

C. obscura BLACKB.? 1 Ex. (Kimberley, N. W. Austr.).

Cisseis sp.? 1 Ex. (Christmas Creek, Queensland).

Cisseoides marmorata MACL. 6 Exs. (Kimberley, N. W. Austr.).

Neospades (cisseis) cruciata FAB. 1 Ex. (Queensland).

N. (Cisseis) cuprifera GESTRO. 9 Exs. (Kimberley, N. W. Austr.).

N. (Cisseis) dimidiata MACL. 12 Exs. (Kimberley, N. W. Austr.).

N. lateralis BLACKB. 3 Exs. (Malanda, Queensland).

[*Neospades*. KERREMANS seems to have overlooked the chief character which BLACKBURN pointed out a distinguishing *Neospades* from *Cisseis* — vide Trans. Roy. Soc. South Austr. 1912, pp. 72—74. — I fully concur with BLACKBURN in thus distinguishing *Neospades* »Tarsi very short and very strongly compressed; claws of the divergent type, almost parallel with each other and very deeply bifid».

Synonym. *Neospades (Cisseis) cuprifera* GESTRO = *C. cuprifera* THOMS. (Both authors quote Deyrolle M. S. S. THOMSON appears to have been unaware of GESTRO'S previous publication.)

N. lateralis BLACKB. = *Cisseis splendida* KERR.

N. (Cisseis) dimidiata MACL. = *C. apicalis* MACL. var.

= *C. purpureo-tincta* MACL. var.

= *C. semi-rugosa* THOMS.

I have compared MACLEAY'S three types; between which there are but slight colour differences; in *apicalis* the golden

surface replaces the coppery green of *dimidiata*, while *purpureo-tincta* is a slightly more obscure form.

In the series taken by Dr. MJÖBERG both the *dimidiata* and *apicalis* patterns occur, together with intermediate forms. I identified *C. semi-rugosa* THOMS. from the KERREMAN's Coll. in the British Museum in 1907 and find it identical with *C. dimidiata* MACL. n. b. In each of the above cases the first name should stand.]

Alcinous minor KERR. 2 Exs. (Glen Lamington, Queensland).

Paracephala aenea BLACKB. 1 Ex. (Kimberley, N. W. Austr.).

P. intermedia KERR. 3 Exs. (Christmas Creek & Rockhampton, Queensland).

Agrius deaurata MACL. 1 Ex. (Herberton, Queensland).

A. hypoleucus HOPE. 1 Ex. (Queensland).

A. nitidus KERR. 1 Ex. (Yarrabah, Queensland).

Germanica casuarinae BLACKB. 3 Exs. (Glen Lamington, Queensland).

Aphanisticus albo-hirtus sp. nov.

Elongate sub-parallel, scarcely attenuated in front and rather widely rounded behind; the whole dull coppery bronze, lightly clad with sub-recumbent white hairs. Head wide, convex on forehead and sides, surface with a fine silky roughness. *Prothorax* little wider than head; apex feebly, base strongly bisinuate; sides nearly straight (feebly enlarged on apical half, feebly sinuate behind), lateral carina not evident from above; a little explanate near the sub-rectangular hind angles; disc without fovea or medial line, its surface like that of head. Elytra slightly enlarging and tumid at shoulders, slightly compressed at middle: slightly enlarged and widest behind middle; apices united and forming an even curve; disc with fine, scratch-like (longitudinal) punctures, the sutural row (at least) arranged in a linear series, the others less regular; the surface obscured by the comparatively coarse, bristly hair.

Dim.: 3.5×1 mm.

Hab.: Kimberley district N. W. Australia (Mus. Stockholm). Two examples, sex doubtful, are clearly distinct from the only three described species *A. canaliculatus* GERM.,

A. lilliputanus THOMS. and *A. occidentalis* MACL. The last of these is considerably larger, bluish in colour, with the prothorax much widened from base to apex. THOMSON'S species is scarcely to be identified from description and may be, as formely suggested by me, a *Germanica*. *A. caniculatus* GERM. is placed by KERREMAN'S (Genera Ins.) under *Paracephala*, as a synonym of *P. pistacina* HOPE. The words »thorace lato» and »elytris--obsolete costatis» in its description are inapplicable to the above species.

Tryckt den 2 februari 1921.